

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 24 are pending. Claim 21 stands rejected. Claims 1 to 20 are allowed and claims 22 to 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the independent claim. Claims 18, 19 and 24 were objected to for informalities.


Claims 18 and 24 have been amended as recommended by the Examiner. Claim 19 depends from claim 18.

Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Prall et al. (patent no. 6,274,423) for the reasons stated in page 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection. However, to place the application in condition for allowance, claim 21 has been canceled, without prejudice and claim 22 has been amended to include the elements of claim 21. The Examiner has indicated that claim 22 would be allowable if so amended. Claims 23 and 24 depend upon claim 22. The dependent claims are allowable for the same reasons given for the independent claims.

For the foregoing reasons, the present application including claims 2 to 18 is believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner's early passage of the application to allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Michael F. Morano
Registration No. 44,952
Attorney for Applicants

Correspondence Address:

F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLC
130 Woodbury Road
Woodbury, New York 11797
Telephone: (516) 692-8888
Facsimile: (516) 692-8889